

TESTIMONY OF NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS (NFIB) BY ANDY MARKOWSKI, CONNECTICUT STATE DIRECTOR OPPOSING HB-6560, AAC DISCLOSURE OF TAX INCENTIVES PROVIDED TO BUSINESSES BEFORE THE FINANCE, REVENUE & BONDING COMMITTEE MARCH 21, 2011

A non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1943, NFIB is Connecticut's and the nation's leading small-business association. In Connecticut, NFIB represents thousands of members and their employees and membership is scattered across the state and ranges from sophisticated high technology enterprises to single-person "Mom & Pop" shops that operate in traditional ways. NFIB's mission is "To promote and protect the right of its members to own, operate, and grow their businesses." On behalf of those small-and independent-job-providers in Connecticut, I offer the following comments:

NFIB/Connecticut strongly opposes *HB-6560*, as this legislation is unnecessary and will only serve to harm small businesses here in Connecticut. This bill, which would release to the public proprietary tax information about many Connecticut businesses, would cast a blow to their competitiveness and harm the state's image as a place to do business. Under HB-6560, the Department of Revenue Services would make public a list of businesses, possibly including in some cases individuals who own or manage pass-through entitites, accessing state-provided deductions, credits or exemptions, along with the actual amount of tax savings and advantages realized by each company. This proposal would harm businesses of all types and sizes, by putting valuable information into the hands of their competitors and is in direct conflict with efforts to create a business friendly environment in Connecticut.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment, and NFIB/Connecticut opposes HB-6560.

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